

REGULAR MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
July 1, 2013

The Jasper County Board of Commissioners met this date at 8:15 A.M. in the Commissioners' Room, Suite 202, of the Jasper County Courthouse located at 115 West Washington Street, Rensselaer, Indiana, with the following members present: Kendell Culp, James A. Walstra and Richard E. Maxwell. Also present was the Auditor of Jasper County, Kimberly K. Grow; Deputy Auditor, Donna J. Horner; Highway Engineer/Supervisor, Jack R. Haberlin and the Attorney who represents the Commissioners, Eric Beaver. Mr. Culp called the meeting to order and those present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance led by Vince Urbano, Jasper County Surveyor.

EDUCATION SEMINAR & AIC CONFERENCE / SURVEYOR: Vince Urbano, Surveyor, requested permission to attend an education seminar featuring regulated drains on July 17 in Greenfield. The seminar has been approved for 3 credit hours of education. Mr. Urbano is not interested in attending the bowling that is taking place in the afternoon. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the seminar only. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Urbano also requested permission to attend the AIC conference in Switzerland County that is being held September 23-26. Mr. Urbano plans to attend on Wednesday only. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the conference as well as a one-night hotel stay. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

CLAIMS: After clarification from Mr. Urbano on a claim regarding the Ryan ditch, Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the claims as submitted. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

PAYROLL: Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the Payroll Claim and Allowance Docket for the check date equal to June 28, 2013 and the Payroll Claim and Allowance Docket for the Prosecuting Attorney's budget for the check date equal to June 17, 2013. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

MINUTES: Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Continued Meeting held on June 17, 2013. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

BURIED CABLE: Mr. Haberlin submitted three (3) buried cable requests for review. One request is from Century Link for a simple bore under a road in Marion Township. The second request is from Nitco for the replacement of cable in Union Township. The third request is from Culp Excavating where a bore under 1800S was required to replace a water line in the City of Remington. Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the following buried cable permits. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

CENTURYLINK:

ACT #12202344 For the purpose of boring under CR 875 South to provide facilities in Marion Township. There is no tile in the area. (Permit #668)

NITCO:

ACT #13-007 For the purpose of cutting into driveway or use Jasper County Road right-of-way in Union Township. There is tile in the area. (Permit #669)

CULP EXCAVATING:

For the purpose of cutting into driveway or use Jasper County road right-of-way in Newton Township. (Permit #82)

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SUPERIOR COURT / TEMPORARY EMPLOYEE: Judge Ahler explained that one of his employees will be out on sick leave beginning the 8th of July. The employee will be absent for approximately one month. Judge Ahler would like to hire a temporary employee during this time. This employee will be paid \$14.00 per hour. \$6,000.00 has been requested from the Council. This amount should be more than needed and will not be used for any other purpose. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

INSURANCE / PROPERTY & CASUALTY RENEWAL: Stace Pickering, Consolidated Insurance, explained that the \$47 million on the property is the total blanket. This number, which has increased approximately 5% from last year, is based off what it would cost to replace all of the buildings. Workers Compensation was also updated by about 4%. In regards to Commercial Auto, there are now 122 vehicles (including trailers). In regards to changes, the two vehicles at the Airport have been deleted. The Airport Board has received a quote for their property. This is the last portion of the Airport that is still on the County's policy. Once they give approval, this will be taken off. Once this comes off, there is an approximate reduction of \$2,500.00 in the County's premium. The County does have liability coverage for the airport premises. In reviewing the claims summary, Mr. Pickering stated that in all of the years that we have been the agent, this is the worst we have ever seen on claims. There are still five open claims prior to 2012. Overall, there is a 9% increase in premiums. Once the property for the airport gets taken off, this should go down to an 8% increase. Mr. Maxwell made motion to approve the renewal with Downey Insurance / Consolidated Insurance for the County's property and casualty insurance policy for 2013-2014. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

AIC / ANNUAL CONFERENCE: Bill Batley, IT, would like permission to attend the AIC Annual Conference in Switzerland County on September 23-26. Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

FALL CONFERENCE / HEALTH DEPARTMENT: Michele Schuetzenhofer and Christy Fisher, Health Department, requested permission to attend Fall Conference on September 23-25 in Fort Wayne. The conference begins at 8:30 a.m. with registration at 8:00 a.m. Permission to travel to Fort Wayne on September 22 was requested. Christy and Michele will be traveling together and sharing a hotel room at the rate of \$89.00 per night. The conference price is \$195.00 including all meals. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve two hotel nights along with the conference. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

DK AND SONS, LLC / LIMESTONE MASONRY CLEANING: A revised quote to include new natural stone treatment in the cleaning of the exterior masonry walls of the Annex building was submitted by DK and Sons, LLC. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the revised quote in the amount of \$5,685.00. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

WTH / ELECTRONIC MAP DATA APPLICATION: An electronic map data application from Ag Exchange Farm Real Estate requesting County GIS data was received from WTH. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

FEDERAL GRANT DOLLARS: Mr. Culp stated that the State Board of Accounts has informed that there needs to be some sort of accounting and recognition of all federal dollars. For example, it needs to state in our minutes when a grant is received and approved. Copies of all associated documents need to be initialed and kept in the file with the minutes.

SIDEWALK / SPARLING AVENUE: Mr. Culp stated that he received a letter from Michael Manis, President of the Rensselaer Park Board, in regards to the paving of the sidewalk/pathway on Sparling Avenue. Discussion has taken place in the past. Further research will be needed.

PUBLIC HEARING / ADDITIONAL STOP SIGN: A public hearing was held at 9:00 A.M. to address an ordinance to amend Title 11: Highways, of the Code of Ordinances of Jasper County, Indiana, as amended. The list of "Stop Intersections" referred to in subsection (E) of Sec.114.01; Highway Signs, Chapter 114 Highway signs, of Title 11: Highways of the Code of Ordinances of Jasper County, Indiana, as amended, is hereby amended by adding thereto the following language: Install a stop sign on 1100-N where it intersects with county road 80-W, for east bound traffic. The intersection of county road 1100-N and county road 80-W will now become a three-way stop. There was no public comment. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve **Ordinance No. 7-1-2013**. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

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PHEASANT HILL ESTATES / BLACKTOPPING: Bill Frey, owner of Pheasant Hill Estates, explained that they have 450' of road ready to pave within their new subdivision; however, the Highway has refused to approve this distance. Mr. Frey stated that he was told that the reason for the rejection is because the road was not long enough which would require the snow plows to back out. Plans of the area were displayed and reviewed. Mr. Culp stated that you would normally put your entire infrastructure into the subdivision before the lots are sold. After further discussion, Mr. Walstra made a motion to allow the Frey's to asphalt with the finished product up to and including the cul-de-sac within their subdivision. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

CUMULATIVE BUILDING FUND / HOSPITAL: Ed Dumas, Attorney for the Hospital Board, was present in regards to the Cumulative Building Fund that the hospital had a few years ago. Attorney Dumas explained that in 2010, the County Commissioners and the County Council approved a levy for the Cumulative Building Fund for the Jasper County Hospital; however, the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) would not allow the levy. The DLGF stated that you cannot have a levy for more than 12 years in the life of any one county hospital. The Hospital took this on appeal to the Tax Court and the Tax Court agreed with the Hospital that such an interpretation made no sense. We are now back in the position to reestablish the Cumulative Building Fund if this Board so chooses. Mr. Culp explained that when we were told that we couldn't have the Cumulative Fund rate for the hospital, we took that rate and we put it in another rate to use towards road funding. Last year, the hospital was given funding that came out of the Cumulative Capital Development Fund. This rate is established by the State and gives us more flexibility. The Cumulative Building Fund rate takes money away from the County General Fund. Do you have a preference or an issue with where the funding comes from? Attorney Dumas replied that however the County wants to support the hospital is great. Due to the timing, this year's funding will come from the Cumulative Capital Development Fund.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT / REPAIRS: Pat Williamson, Sheriff's Department, stated that Sheriff Risner does not believe that the "Repair Fund" will make it to the end of the year due to some upcoming cost. There is a valve being replaced within the cellblocks that cost \$2,500.00 - \$3,000.00 a piece. We are in the process of replacing LED lights within the parking lot. These lights have a payback of 5-7 years. We are also in the process of installing the LED lights within the facility. The manufacturer of the windows has been contacted regarding the south and west windows. Some of the seals that seal the edge of the windows are coming out of the window frame and into the actual window body itself. A call has not yet been received back on this issue; therefore, we don't have an idea of what the cost will be.

Discussion took place in regards to the installation of LED lights within the facility. Mr. Walstra stated that he believes that this was a cost that was included within the bid received from EMCOR as part of the energy savings contract. Kurt Stevens, KB Solutions, will look into the details of the contract. Mr. Walstra requested that Mr. Williamson hold off until they can look into further.

JASPER COUNTY FAIR / SECURITY: Mr. Williamson stated that they would be able to provide some security for the fair; however, they may not be able to provide security 24 hours per day due to the fact that we have an officer out with a broken foot and two officers that were just replaced with new hires.

INTERDICTION OFFICER / REQUEST: Mr. Williamson once again brought up the request for a second Interdiction Officer. With some of the issues we have with interdiction and drugs in the County, we feel it is appropriate to have an officer support the other not only for safety but also for all of the other things that we have going on. Mr. Culp stated that, as far as the second Interdiction Officer, we agree that there is a need; however, we are spending more money out of the Public Safety Fund than we are bringing in. Mr. Walstra stated that the Council will address at budget time. Mr. Culp stated that the officer was budgeted for this year; however, he is not sure that the income and expenses have been reviewed.

JASPER COUNTY JAIL FACILITY / PROGRESS REPORT: Kurt Stevens, KB Solutions, was present to give an update on the jail project. Havel Engineering is coordinating with Tom Durkin regarding the engineering for the project. The equipment will be ordered the second week of July. The lead time for the equipment is 8-10 weeks so they are looking for a mid-September on-site date. Mr. Stevens has continued to monitor the systems.

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EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT / SALARY REIMBURSEMENT: Karen Wilson, Emergency Management Director, stated that verification is needed from the Commissioners stating that she has completed the required courses to receive the 50% salary reimbursement from the federal and state funding. Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION / UPDATE: Kevin Kelly, Economic Development Director, reported that today is the first day of their new fiscal year. A \$3.4 million expansion was recently completed at the Oak Grove Christian Retirement Village in DeMotte. Mr. Kelly also stated that he recently toured the NIPSCO Schaeffer station. In regards to Unit 14, they will be shifting the exhaust from the existing system to the new system this fall. The same thing will be done to Unit 15 in 2014. Mr. Kelly also reported that the "Pig Adventure" will be opening on August 5. Details of the day's event have not yet been released.

YOUTH CENTER / GIBAULT: Attorney Beaver stated that he is in the process of putting together a letter to the Commissioners in regards to the Youth Center. Mr. Culp explained that the Director of the CASA program is housed in the Youth Center. The contract with Gibault is up on August 2. Judge Potter has put some budget numbers together for the Council to run the CASA program. Mr. Culp has met with the Advisory Board and has showed the building to a group who currently operates a day care facility and has showed interest. They are a religious-based organization; therefore, some legal questions have been referred to Attorney Beaver. Gibault has provided a list of their equipment and furniture that is currently in the building.

AFTER THE REGIONAL WATER & SEWER DISTRICT MEETING:

SICK DAYS / PAYMENT UPON TERMINATION: Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the payment of half of the accumulated sick days to a terminated employee. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

RECYCLING: Mr. Culp reported that he met with the Hamstra's at the Fase Center in regards to recycling. They would like to have everyone from the north end bring their recycling to the Fase Center because DeMotte now has curbside recycling provided by Allied. We have two trailer loads in and out of the DeMotte Town Hall per week. Wheatfield also has a trailer that is pulled to Rensselaer once per week. Mr. Culp suggested that only one trailer be placed at the DeMotte location with signage that the recycling can be also be dropped off at the Fase Center. Further discussion took place.

DONNELLY PROPERTY: Discussion took place regarding the Donnelly property that is located adjacent to the Courthouse. The property is currently for sale. Mr. Walstra made a motion to move forward with obtaining two (2) appraisals on the Donnelly property. Mr. Culp seconded and the motion carried. Let the record show that Mr. Maxwell abstained.

INNKEEPERS TAX: Mr. Culp reported that \$49,220.00 has been collected from the Innkeepers tax in the first five (5) months. The most current collection was \$12,084.00.

LITTLE COUSIN JASPER FESTIVAL / LETTER TO GAMING COMMISSION: A letter was prepared on behalf of the Little Cousin Jasper Festival to be sent to the Indiana Gaming Commission. The letter states that the Commissioners give approval for the Little Cousin Jasper Festival Committee to use the Jasper County Courthouse premises on September 6, 7, and 8 for their 2013 festival. The event will include three (3) gaming events which include a 50/50 drawing, a jersey raffle and a Duck Derby. Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the letter. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

IPAD PURCHASE / SURVEYOR: Mr. Culp stated that the IT Committee met and agreed that the Surveyor could use an iPad out in the field if he could pay for the purchase price as well as the monthly fee from the Surveyor's Corner Perpetuation Fund. Attorney Beaver is in the process of reviewing the IC code to see if this is an allowable expense. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the purchase pending Attorney Beaver's review of the code. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

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BRIDGE INVENTORY: Jack Haberlin, Highway Engineer, presented the new Bridge Inventory book. Mr. Haberlin reported that we are really in good shape. Many counties have fractural critical bridges that need to be replaced. In that category, Jasper County only has two (2). One is Bridge 198 that is currently under construction. The second is the two culverts located on 1500 N near NIPSCO's work entrance. Since 1999, we have worked on 25-30 bridges.

X-SOFT CONTRACT / ASSESSOR: Attorney Beaver stated that the Commissioners approved the contracts with X-Soft at their last meeting pending his review. Attorney Beaver has reviewed and, upon his recommendation, the Commissioners signed the contracts.

PINNACLE MAPPING: Attorney Beaver provided an update on the pending lawsuit with Pinnacle Mapping.

OLD LAWBOOKS: Judge Potter informed the Commissioners that he is going to get rid of all of the old lawbooks that are currently in the basement.

There being no further business, Mr. Maxwell made a motion to continue the meeting on an as needed basis only. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

JASPER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

Kendell Culp, President

James A. Walstra, Vice President

Richard E. Maxwell, Member

ATTEST:

Kimberly K. Grow, Auditor of Jasper County

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